

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

What is claimed is:

1-25. (Canceled)

26. (New) A trackable object comprising:

an elongated body having a first end and a second end and a first width;

a tongue extending from the second end of said body, said tongue having a second width smaller than the first width so as to form a shoulder where said tongue extends from the second end of said body; and

an electronic device attached to said tongue.

27. (New) The trackable object of claim 1, wherein said electronic memory device includes an electronic identification code stored therein.

28. (New) The trackable object of claim 1, wherein said electronic memory device includes an electronic memory.

29. (New) The trackable object of claim 1, wherein said tongue is elongated and extends from a proximal end adjacent the second end of the elongated body to a distal end.

30. (New) The trackable object of claim 29, wherein said tongue tapers from said proximal end to said distal end.

31. (New) The trackable object of claim 1, wherein said electronic device is attached to the distal end of said tongue.

32. (New) The trackable object of claim 1, further comprising an attachment mechanism on said body for securing items thereto.
33. (New) The trackable object of claim 32, wherein said attachment mechanism is located at the first end of said elongated body.
34. (New) The trackable object of claim 32, wherein said attachment mechanism comprises an aperture.
35. (New) The trackable object of claim 34, wherein said attachment mechanism further comprises a rivet mounted in said aperture.
36. (New) The trackable object of claim 1, said tongue defined by a first face and a second face, wherein said electronic device protrudes from said first face.
37. (New) The trackable object of claim 36, wherein said electronic device is substantially flush with said second face.
38. (New) The trackable object of claim 1, said tongue defined by a first face and a second face, wherein said electronic device protrudes substantially from said first face and minimally from said second face.
39. (New) The trackable object of claim 1, wherein said elongated body tapers at said first end.
40. (New) The trackable object of claim 39, further comprising an attachment mechanism located adjacent said taper at said first end.
41. (New) The trackable object of claim 1, wherein said elongated body is formed of a non-conducting material.
42. (New) The trackable object of claim 1, wherein said elongated body is formed of plastic.

43. (New) A trackable object comprising:

an elongated body having a first end and a second end and a first width, wherein a shoulder is defined at said second end;

a tongue extending from the shoulder, wherein said tongue is elongated and extends from a proximal end adjacent the shoulder to a distal end and wherein said tongue tapers from said proximal end to said distal end;

an electronic memory device attached to said distal end of said tongue, said electronic memory device having an electronic identification code stored therein; and

an attachment mechanism located on said body at a position removed from said electronic memory device,

wherein said tongue is defined by a first face and a second face and said electronic device protrudes from said first face.

44. (New) An object control and tracking system comprising:

a plurality of trackable objects, each trackable object comprising:

an elongated body having a first end and a second end and a first width;

a tongue extending from the second end of said body, said tongue having a second width smaller than the first width so as to form a shoulder where said tongue extends from the second end of said body; and

an electronic device attached to said tongue and storing an identification code,

a storage unit having a panel with an array of receptacles defined on said panel, each receptacle sized to receive the tongue of said trackable object, such that when a trackable object is seated in a receptacle, the tongue extends through said receptacle and said shoulder of said trackable object abuts said panel;

an electronic circuit associated with each receptacle, said electronic circuit being configured and located adjacent a receptacle to read the identification code of an electronic device when a trackable object is seated in said receptacle; and
a computer controller coupled to said electronic circuit.

45. (New) The system of claim 44, wherein said electronic circuit comprises a set of contacts in said storage unit, said contacts being configured and located to engage an electronic device on a trackable object when said trackable object is seated in a receptacle, and wherein said computer controller is programmed to read the identification code of said electronic device engaged by said contacts.

46. (New) The system of claim 44, wherein each of said receptacles comprises an elongated slot substantially the shape of the tongue with a wider aperture portion provided along one side of said slot to permit the electronic device to pass therethrough.